# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMUNICATIONS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4369
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2001
FREE INCOMING CALLS ON MOBILE TELEPHONES
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

**Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government propose to make incoming calls free on mobile telephones;

(b) if so, whether any directions have been issued in this regard;

(c) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited is charging fee for incoming calls on mobile telephones; and

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): Sir, the subject matter of tariff for Telecom Services falls under the jurisdiction of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).On 17th September, 1999, the TRAI issued the Telecommunication Tariff (Fifth Amendment) Order, 1999 and Telecommunication Interconnection (Charges and Revenue Sharing- First Amendment) Regulation, 1999 that sought to introduce the Calling Party Pays (CPP)Regime for Cellular Mobile Service with effect from 1st November, 1999.The Hon`ble High Courtof Delhi quashed the Regulation on the grounds that it was inconsistent with a provision in the License Agreementrelating to payment of access charge by mobile to fixed network operator.

TRAI informed the Department of Telecom (DoT) that implementation of CPPregime for cellular mobile would require an amendment in the License Agreement. On advice of TRAI the relevant clause has been amended.TRAIis presently engaged in preparation of a consultation paper relating to the CPP regime so as to obtain the views of all stakeholders on the issue.The CPP regime when introduced in due course of time, will make incoming calls free for the called mobile subscriber, however, the caller, i.e. a fixed subscriber will have to pay an additional mobile termination charge.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As in (a) and (b) above.